

# ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

**Parish Priest: Fr. Shanthaiah Marneni**

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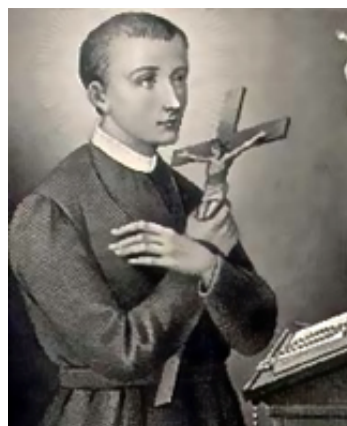
**Office:** Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 2.30pm

**Parish Secretary:** Sinthia Stellato

**Parish Secretary & Safeguarding Officer:** Sumitha Moses

**Principal of St. Gerard's Catholic School:** Mr. Paul Cowan

**School Phone:** 9791 7553 **Email:** principal@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au



Welcome to St. Gerard's parish, where we foster the wellbeing and safety of all children and adults at risk. Since we take the safety of our young and vulnerable parishioners seriously, we have a zero tolerance policy when it comes to abuse. All our parishioners have the right to feel safe and welcome. If you have any concerns, please contact the Safeguarding Officer, Sumitha Moses.

**"Child Safety is Everyone's Responsibility"**

<https://www.stgerards.org.au/child-safety-professional-standards/>

## **Thirty - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time — Sunday, 14th November, 2021**

### **Entrance Antiphon:**

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon Me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

### **First Reading - Daniel 12:1-3**

'At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.'

**Responsorial Psalm:** Keep me safe, O God; You are my hope.

### **Second Reading - Hebrews 10:11-14, 18**

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. He, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place forever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!** Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man. **Alleluia!**

### **Gospel Reading - Mark 13:24-32**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.'

### **Communion Antiphon:**

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

### **Mass Time Change for Monday 15th November**

Please note that, Mass on Monday 15th November, will be celebrated at 8:45am for this week only.

### **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Memorial Mass**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will begin at 8:15am from this **Friday 19th November** followed by Benediction at 9am, then Mass. This will continue each week or unless otherwise specified.

On Friday 26th November at 6:30pm there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Mass at 7pm, for the recently deceased and for those whom have been unable to see their loved ones either overseas or here, due to the covid crisis.

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

### Saturday, November 13th

#### 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Anton Adophus & Ameliea  
(Remembrance)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

### Sunday, November 14th

(8:30am Mass is 'Status unknown' please. 10:30am  
and 5:30pm fully vaccinated. Thank you.)

Mass 8:30am Giuseppe & Mena Giliotti  
(Remembrance)

Mass 10:30am Peter, Elizabeth & Cyril Panicker  
(Remembrance)

Mass 3:30pm Tamil Community

Mass 5:30pm Fully Vaccinated

### Monday, November 15th \*Please note Mass time\*

Mass 8:45am Souls of the Pinto Family

### Tuesday, November 16th

Mass 9:15am Moti Mary  
(Anniversary of Death)

### Wednesday, November 17th

#### Saint Elizabeth of Hungary

Mass 9:15am Thresiamma Abraham  
(Remembrance)

and McConville & D'Rozario  
Deceased Family Members

### Thursday, November 18th

Mass 9:15am Soul of Frank Marchese  
(Remembrance)

### Friday, November 19th

Mass 9:15am Albert, Natalia & Sheila  
(Remembrance)

### Saturday, November 20th

Mass 9:15am Raphael Rodrigues  
(Birthday Thanksgiving)

### Collections

Please note that this weekend, we will have collections for the Priest's Retirement Fund and Father's Day Appeal. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

### Please remember to pray for...

**Our sick:** Neil Biggins, Giovanna McKercher, Hercules Pillay, Kateri Byrnes, Victoria Briglia, Karen Daniells, Brian Edwards, Peter Shaw-Dennis, Rosemary Zaher, Allan Welsh, Kusum and Dinuk Wickremasinghe, Carl DeRozario, Anton Jayamaha, Joseph Irudairaj, Cedric & Deborah Rowland, Michelle Bugone, Simone Valadon, Angelo Sciacca, Doreen Oliver, Tina Vaca

**The recently deceased:** Rène Hennequin, Aloisia Sledzik, Alan Hotham, Antonio Cardamone, Alberto Ruiz, Marie-Claire Sybil Reincastle

**Anniversaries/Remembrances:** Gordon D'Cruz

### Act of Consecration to St. Joseph

O Glorious Patriarch and Patron of the Church! O Virgin Spouse of the Virgin Mother of God! O Guardian and Virginal Father of the Word Incarnate! In the presence of Jesus and Mary, I choose you this day to be my father, my guardian, and my protector. O great St. Joseph, whom God has made the Head of the Holy Family, accept me, I beseech you, though utterly unworthy, to be a member of your "Holy House." Present me to your Immaculate Spouse; ask her also to adopt me as her child: With her, pray that I may constantly think of Jesus, and serve Him faithfully to the end of my life. O Terror of Demons, increase in me virtue, protect me from the evil one, and help me not to offend God in any way.

O my spiritual father, I hereby consecrate myself to you. In faithful imitation of Jesus and Mary, I place myself and all my concerns under your care and protection. To you, after Jesus and Mary, I consecrate my body and soul, with all their faculties, my spiritual growth, my home, and all my affairs and undertakings. Forsake me not, but adopt me as a servant and child of the Holy Family. Watch over me at all times, but especially at the hour of my death. Console and strengthen me with the presence of Jesus and Mary so that, with you, I may praise and adore the Holy Trinity for all eternity. Amen.

### Reading Roster

**(Resuming usual timetable)**

#### November

Sat. 13th	5:30pm	B. Collins
Sun. 14th	8:30am	M. Jose
	10:30am	M. Lourdunathan
	5:30pm	J. Panicker

#### November

Sat. 20th	5:30pm	J. D'Souza
Sun. 21st	8:30am	V. Noble
	10:30am	J. Gelderbloem
	5:30pm	J. Abraham

### Church Cleaning

**Saturday 20th November, 2021**  
Moses Family, Vincent, Mary & Rebecca  
**Saturday 27th November, 2021**  
Legion of Mary

**Monday of the 33rd Week in Ordinary Time - November 15th, 2021:**

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon Me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Give me life, O Lord, and I will do Your commands.

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!** I am the light of the world, says the Lord: whoever follows Me will have the light of life. **Alleluia!**

**Communion Antiphon:** To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

**Tuesday of the 33rd Week in Ordinary Time - November 16th, 2021:**

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon Me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

**Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord upholds me.

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!** God first loved us and sent His Son to take away our sins. **Alleluia!**

**Communion Antiphon:** To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

**Saint Elizabeth of Hungary - Wednesday, November 17th, 2021:**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Come, you blessed of my Father, says the Lord: I was sick, and you visited Me. Amen I say to you: Whatever you did for one of the least of My brethren you did it for Me.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, when Your glory appears, my joy will be full.

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!** I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go and bear fruit that will last. **Alleluia!**

**Communion Antiphon:** Greater love has no one than to lay down his life for his friends.

**Thursday of the 33rd Week in Ordinary Time - November 18th, 2021**

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon Me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

**Responsorial Psalm:** To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!** If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts. **Alleluia!**

**Communion Antiphon:** To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

**Friday of the 33rd Week in Ordinary Time - November 19th, 2021:**

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon Me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

**Responsorial Psalm:** We praise Your glorious name, O mighty God.

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!** My sheep listen to My voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow Me. **Alleluia!**

**Communion Antiphon:** To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

**Saturday of the 33rd Week in Ordinary Time - November 20th, 2021:**

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon Me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

**Responsorial Psalm:** I will rejoice in Your salvation, O Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!** Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through His gospel. **Alleluia!**

**Communion Antiphon:** To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

## Parish Notices

Following is a letter from Archbishop Comensoli.

Dear People and Clergy of the Archdiocese,

### **Equal Opportunity (Religious Exceptions) Amendment Bill 2021**

My prayerful greetings to you in the Lord.

It is with grave concern that I write to you about proposed new legislation, the *Equal Opportunity (Religious Exceptions) Amendment Bill 2021* from the State Government, which will impact on all faith-based organisations in Victoria.

The Victorian Government is depicting this Bill as merely a protection against discrimination in religious settings. Sadly, however, this is a seriously far-reaching law that will limit faith-based organisations from managing employment matters according to their faith, conscience and values. The legalisation is a serious overreach of the Government into the rightful freedoms of Victorian faith-based organisations.

Across all areas of society, Catholics run organisations with an open and inclusive commitment to people in their care. Our excellence in the provision of services is recognised by many – evident in the large numbers of students attending Catholic schools and educational institutions.

Currently, Catholic organisations, including our schools can freely employ those who share our religious beliefs, values and ethos. However, the Victorian Government has introduced legislation seeking to change this. If it passes, the *Equal Opportunity (Religious Exceptions) Amendment Bill 2021* will affect religious organisations all across Victoria, who will be limited in their ability to employ staff, run their schools and provide other services that adhere to their faith, values and ethos.

Under the new legislation, religious bodies and educational institutes will no longer be able to employ staff who hold the same religious beliefs and values unless they can prove that it is an ‘inherent requirement’ of the job. It would grant power to a government appointed commissioner or a court to ultimately determine whether particular staffing roles carried an ‘inherent’ religious requirement or not. This means that in places like schools, and especially where government funding is attached, employers will have an extra burden of administration placed on them, and leave them vulnerable to a decrease in the role and importance of faith in the work they do.

The example has been given that in a religious school, the only roles where religious beliefs might be an ‘inherent requirement’ of the job include positions of senior leadership (e.g., a principal) or religious education teachers. However, what the Government fails to understand is that faith is holistic – it affects the way we see the world and conduct our lives. Faith is part of the very make-up and fabric of each school. It is entirely reasonable and fair that religious bodies should be able to preference those who share their beliefs and values in their own private employment matters.

I do not believe it is in anyone’s interest in the long term for a secular power to make such a determination for religious organisations. The role or importance of faith in a faith-based organisation cannot be relegated to a bureaucrat or a secular court. This is another sad example of people of faith and the freedom of religious organisations being unfairly targeted.

Other organisations like political parties will not have the same restrictions placed on them. In other words, the Government will impose on the staffing of faith organisations but not on the staffing of political organisations. We rightly ask, why the imbalance?

Unfortunately, we can expect the Bill to be debated in Parliament next week and the Government has given its full support to these proposals without adequate consultation in which we could have negotiated a fair and equitable outcome.

We live in a diverse and pluralistic society, and it is our democratic right and responsibility to respectfully challenge legislative proposals which are unfair and unreasonable. I encourage all people of faith and goodwill to stand up for religious freedom and ask our parliamentarians to oppose the Bill, particularly the introduction of an ‘inherent requirement’ test.

(Please click [HERE](#) to) find some suggestions on how to raise concerns about this important issue and I also encourage you to share this message widely.

Please continue to pray for a spirit of fairness to people of faith by our parliamentary representatives, and for good sense to prevail.

With every grace and blessing, I remain, Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Most Reverend Peter A Comensoli.